## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE TO (Rule 13e-4)

Tender Offer Statement Under Section 14(d)(1) or 13(e)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

> General Employment Enterprises, Inc. (Name of Subject Company (Issuer))

> General Employment Enterprises, Inc. (Name of Filing Person (Offeror))

Options to Purchase Common Stock, No Par Value, under the General Employment Enterprises, Inc. 1995 Stock Option Plan, the General Employment Enterprises, Inc. 1997 Stock Option Plan and the General Employment Enterprises, Inc. 1999 Stock Option Plan (Title of Class of Securities)

369730106 (CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

Herbert F. Imhoff, Jr. General Counsel General Employment Enterprises, Inc. One Tower Lane, Suite 2100 Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 (630) 954-0400

with copy to: Robert B. Chapman FagelHaber LLC 55 E. Monroe Street, 40th Floor Chicago, IL 60603 (312) 246-7500

(Name, address and telephone numbers of persons authorized to receive notices and communications on behalf of filing person)

/X/ Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes below to designate any transactions to which the statement relates:

// third party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.

// issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.

// going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.

// amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer: //

This Schedule TO is being filed to provide copies of communications made prior to the commencement of a tender offer. Items that have been omitted from this Schedule TO are not required.

Item 12. Exhibits.

Number Description of Exhibit

(a)(1) Press Release issued by General Employment Enterprises, Inc. on August 6, 2002.

Exhibit (a)(1) Press Release issued by General Employment Enterprises, Inc. on August 6, 2002.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 6, 2002

COMPANY: General Employment Enterprises, Inc.

CONTACTS: Herbert F. Imhoff, Jr. Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer Phone (630) 954-0402 (630) 954-0595 fax

> Doris A. Bernar Communications Manager & Assistant Corporate Secretary Phone (630) 954-0495 (630) 954-0592 fax invest@genp.com e-mail

General Employment's Executive Management Volunteer to Take Pay Cut

Company Will Expense Stock Options and Adopt Stock Option Exchange Program

Following a board of directors meeting held on August 5, 2002, General Employment Enterprises, Inc. (AMEX: JOB) announced several actions designed to better align the Company's employees and management with shareholder interests and thereby assist in increasing shareholder value.

**Compensation Reduction** 

The Company announced that Herbert F. Imhoff, Jr., Chief Executive Officer, is voluntarily reducing his salary by 20% effective August 1, 2002. Other members of the executive management team volunteered to reduce their salaries by 10% each, and the outside members of the board of directors volunteered to reduce their fees by 50% each.

Commenting on the reductions, Herbert F. Imhoff, Jr. said, "The past year or so has been a difficult period for the Company due to the U.S. economic slowdown and the declining demand for the Company's services. We have taken many steps to reduce the Company's cost structure. Our executive management team and board of directors felt that it would be in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to reduce their salaries and fees to help contain costs until revenues improve. It is this level of commitment, dedication and self-sacrificing that I believe makes our management team and board very unique."

## Company to Expense Stock Options

At its meeting, the audit committee of the Company's board of directors approved the adoption of expensing the fair value of stock options pursuant to SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," effective retroactively to October 1, 2001. Mr. Imhoff commented, "In the past, we disclosed the effects of stock options in our annual reports. For fiscal 2002 we will begin recording them as compensation expense in our results of operations. In making this decision, the Company considered that investors today are looking for this type of information and that it is considered to be a preferable method of accounting."

## Stock Option Exchange Program

The Company's board of directors voted at its meeting yesterday to offer a voluntary stock option exchange program for its employees and directors. An offer will be made to all holders of existing stock options having an option price of \$3.00 per share or higher. They will be able to exchange each eligible option for a new option to be granted as of August 5, 2002, provided that current options having an exercise price of \$5.50 per share or more will be required to tender two options to receive one new option. The Company expects approximately 600,000 option shares to be eligible for exchange. Because of the two-for-one feature applicable to certain options, there could be a net reduction of up to 155,000 in the number of outstanding stock options as a result of the exchange. The Company estimates that the cost of expensing stock options in fiscal 2002, under SFAS No. 123, will increase its net loss for the year by approximately \$70,000 (or \$0.01 per share).

Details of the option exchange program, including new vesting schedules, will be contained in the offering documents. The offering documents will be distributed to eligible option holders upon the completion of all regulatory requirements, which is expected to be within two weeks.

Option holders should carefully read the offering materials when available from the company because they will contain important information and additional details for the exchange offer. Option holders may also obtain the exchange offer materials, tender offer statement, and other filed documents for free at the Securities and Exchange Commission's website, www.sec.gov. The exchange offer materials will be available for free from the company.

Mr. Imhoff remarked, "General Employment and its Board of Directors view stock options as an essential part of the Company's compensation program for its managers, designed to attract and retain the best employees. The intent is to reward individuals for their strong contributions to the Company and to insure that their interests are aligned with shareholders."

Mr. Imhoff explained, "The senior officers and directors are voluntarily agreeing to forgo a portion of their base salary to help improve the cash flow of the corporation, and many other key employees have had a reduction in their compensation due to adverse business conditions. The board has chosen to offer this exchange to benefit those who continue to make significant contributions to the Company, in spite of the economic downturn over which they have no direct control."

## Conclusion

Concluding his remarks, Mr. Imhoff said, "We hope the economy will rebound soon. However we, like many of our peer companies, remain cautious about the outlook for remainder of the calendar year. We will continue to do whatever we can do to increase revenues and to minimize our expenses without impacting future business once the economy improves."

This news release contains forward-looking statements that are based on management's current expectations and are subject to risks and uncertainties. Some of the factors that could affect the Company's future performance include general business conditions, the demand for the Company's services, the ability of the Company to attract and retain qualified personnel for regular full-time placement and contract project assignments, and the ability to attract and retain qualified corporate and branch management.

General Employment provides information technology and technical staffing services, operating 33 branch offices in major metropolitan and suburban business centers in 12 states. The Company's shares are traded on the American Stock Exchange under the trading symbol JOB.